

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T USUN NEW YORK 02885

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, EG, IS, MARR

SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST: WALDHEIM'S TALK WITH SADAT

1. DURING A MEETING WITH SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM JULY 12 ON A NUMBER OF SUBJECTS, AMBASSADOR LEONARD BRIEFED THE SYG ON THE BACKGROUND AND PROSPECTS OF THE LONDON TALKS ON THE MIDDLE EAST. UNDER-SECRETARY GENERAL GUYER AND ROHAN ALSO SAT IN, AS DID COUNSELOR NIMETZ, ASST SECY MAYNES AND POLMIN.

2. WALDHEIM EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR BEING KEPT INFORMED ABOUT THE LONDON TALKS AND PROVIDED A BRIEF SKETCH OF HIS HOUR AND A HALF MEETING WITH SADAT IN AUSTRIA ON MONDAY, JULY 10. HE TERMED THE CONVERSATION "VERY ENLIGHTENING" AND "EDUCATIONAL". SADAT, HE SAID, DOES NOT EXPECT MUCH TO COME OUT OF THE LONDON TALKS. SADAT SAID SEVERAL TIMES, IN VARIOUS WAYS, THAT NO REAL TALK OR MOVEMENT IS POSSIBLE AS LONG AS BEGIN REMAINS IN POWER. SADAT FELT THE VIENNA TALKS WITH PERES HAD GONE WELL; TALK IS POSSIBLE WITH PERES, BUT NOT WITH BEGIN. SADAT SAID HE WOULD NOT

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ATTEND ANOTHER MEETING WITH BEGIN. THERE CAN BE NO HOPE FOR PROGRESS UNTIL CHANGE OCCURS WITHIN ISRAEL.

3. SADAT TOLD WALDHEIM THAT HE LOOKS FORWARD TO RECEIVING AMERICAN PROPOSALS, WHICH HE FULLY EXPECTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO ISRAEL. SADAT SAID HE IS NOT OPPOSED TO RESUMPTION OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE,

BUT GENEVA MUST NOT RESUME UNTIL IT HAS BEEN THOROUGHLY PREPARED. SADAT TOLD WALDHEIM THAT HE FAVORS THE SYG'S NOTION OF A SERIES OF PREPARATORY MEETINGS AND WOULD BE WILLING TO SAY SO PUBLICLY -- AN OFFER THAT WALDHEIM IMMEDIATELY DECLINED, URGING SADAT INSTEAD TO WAIT AND LEND HIS HELP TO THE U.S. LINE OF ACTION.

4. WALDHEIM TOLD SADAT THAT THE SOVIETS WANT TO GO DIRECTLY BACK TO GENEVA WITHOUT PREPARATORY MEETINGS OR OTHER MANEUVERS. SADAT NOTED THAT THE PREPARATORY TALKS COULD BE LAUNCHED AT THE AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL IN NEW YORK, WHERE ALL OF THE PARTIES HAVE GOOD REPRESENTATION. HE SAID HE SHARED THE VIEW THAT OTHER PARTIES TO THE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE BROUGHT BACK INTO THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS. SADAT ALSO STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ROLE OF THE UN, SPEAKING OF THE NEED FOR A UN UMBRELLA IN ANY CONCEIVABLE SETTLEMENT. LEONARD

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